

COUNTY WATER DISTRICT OF BILLINGS HEIGHTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 9, 2020

Welcome Pam Ellis to the Board as the County Appointee

The September 9, 2020 board meeting was called to order by President Wynn Pippin at 6:00 p.m. at 1540 Popelka Drive, Billings, MT.

Board Members: Wynn Pippin, Brandon Hurst (absent), Roger Ostermiller,
Jon Muessig, Donna Dinsmore, Steve Blood, and Pam Ellis

Also present: Duke Nieskens, General Manager
Peyton Brookshire, Assistant Manager
Suzie McKethen, Board Secretary

- **August Minutes for Approval**

Motion: Jon Muessig

Motion carried: 5-0

Second: Steve Blood

- **August Prepaid Bills for Approval**

Motion: Donna Dinsmore

Motion carried: 5-0

Second: Steve Blood

- **August Bills for Approval**

Motion: Donna Dinsmore

Motion carried: 5-0

Second: Steve Blood

- **Financial Statement for review**

- **Manager's Report – Duke Nieskens**

- The servicemen did several repairs last month: 2562 Keel was leaking at the corp. They pulled a new service at 1106-1108 Primrose to replace the tuff tube pipe.
- East of Main Street on Hilltop, the southbound lane of traffic is blocked off. There is a dip in the pavement, as well as an occasional puddle of water. Duke spoke with Scott Emerick of the City of Billings. They are unable to determine if the water is coming from the 24" water main; or from the Billings Bench Water line that has previously leaked on the north side of the street.
- Western Municipal Construction is still working on the punch list items for the Hawthorne Transmission Main project.
- We continue to wait on the Hawthorne main extension paperwork from Performance Engineering/Bar 11.

- A situation arose at a property at 330 Annandale. Back in March 2000, the District installed a water main from St. Andrews down Annandale, to Cherry Hills. The cost of that project was \$176,210. In order to defray the costs of the project, the 67 lots were each assessed \$2630.00. One of the first owners to pay that fee were Mitzi and Bill Haney when they lived at 128 Annandale. This improvement was not considered a Special Improvement District (SID). Fast forward to 2020, the Haney's have built another home at 330 Annandale. They paid the system development fee, but are disputing the water main assessment fee because they didn't know about it. A contractor will often call to find out any fees before starting construction. Duke explained to the board this was the one and only subdivision that has ever had a water main assessment fee. Until the lot is developed, the water main assessment would not be paid. The Haney's feel the fee should have been put on the title. Unfortunately, that was not how the District did things back then. Each of the 60+ lots in that project have paid the water main assessment. It was decided by the board to send a 30-day notice that the water will be shut off if the fee is not paid.
- Duke received a thank you card from the property owner at 1711 Clubhouse – Rich McClellan, stating how pleased he was with serviceman, Quin Fuhrman.
- The cost of the repair on Main Street by First Interstate Bank was approximately \$37,000.
- **Old Business:**
 - Peyton updated the board about his discussions with Billing Document Specialists (BDS), a partner with Black Mountain Software (BMS). He has been getting prices on some features we are interested in. The prices quoted were cost prohibitive. BDS have since revised some of their fees. Peyton is double checking to see if these are just “introductory” prices, and subject to change after a certain period of time.
- **New Business:**
 - None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Donna Dinsmore. Roger Ostermiller seconded. Motion carried 5-0. President Wynn Pippin adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Suzie McKethen, Board Secretary

Wynn Pippin, President